

REMARKS

I. Status of the claims

Claims 1 and 2 are pending in this application. Claim 1 has been amended to recite a recording liquid for ink printers that comprises colorants, water, and fine particle of non-photo-curable resins and photo-curable resin, wherein the total solids content of the resin particles ranges from 15 to 90% by weight. Support for this amendment may be found on page 14, lines 16-23 of the specification.

II. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,234,601 ("Hayashi"). According to the Examiner, claim 1 is rejected because Hayashi discloses (a) a colorant; (b) water; (c) a fine particle of non-photo-curable resin; and (d) a fine particles of photo-curable resin. The Examiner has rejected claim 2 because, in the Examiner's opinion, Hayashi also discloses a method for recording images on a recording medium by discharging the droplets of the recording liquid from a recording head.

As amended, Applicants' claimed invention relates to a recording liquid for ink printers that contains colorants, water, and fine particles of non-photo-curable resins and photo-curable resins, wherein the total solids content of the resin particles ranges from 15 to 90% by weight.

Hayashi, however, does not teach an ink composition wherein the total solids content of the resin particles ranges from 15 to 90% by weight. Rather, Hayashi discloses that the water-soluble emulsion is added to the ink in a range between about 0.5 to 10% by weight in an ink composition. See col. 7, lines 21-23. As known to those of skill in the art, an emulsion is a liquid dispersion of resin particles wherein the solids content is usually up to 55 weight percent in the emulsion. Thus, one skilled in the art would understand that Hayashi's description relating to 0.5 to 10% by weight water-soluble emulsion, when viewed in terms of total solids content of resin particles, would be much less than the disclosed 0.5 to 10% by weight.

Since the ink composition taught by Hayashi contains a total solids content of the resin particles significantly below 10% by weight, Hayashi does not teach an ink composition wherein the total solids content of the resin particles ranges from 15 to 90% by weight, such as that recited in Applicants' claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the § 102(e) rejection over Hayashi.

III. Conclusion

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the subject application in view of the above amendment and remarks.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claim by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Except for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Respectfully Submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

1. (amended) A recording liquid for ink printers, comprising: [a colorant] colorants, water, and [a] fine [particle] particles of non-photo-curable [resin] resins and [a fine particle of] photo-curable [resin] resins, wherein the total solids content of the resin particles ranges from 15 to 90% by weight.

percent or %